

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 NASA-02 NSF-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 IO-10 /108 W

----- 008107

R 061516Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2996

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL HAMILTON

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 6665

DEPT PASS NASA AND NSF POLAR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, XV, AR, GW, US

SUBJ: ROCKET LAUNCH FROM MARAMBIO STATION, ANTARCTICA

1. THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE NATIONAL SPACE RESEARCH COMMISSION SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED AN ARGENTINE-BUILT "CASTOR" ROCKET ON OCTOBER 3 FROM MARAMBIO STATION IN THE ANTARCTIC.

2. THE LAUNCHING WAS CONDUCTED AS PART OF THE "EGNI" PROGRAM, UNDER WHICH THE PAYLOAD WAS DESIGNED AND BUILT AT THE MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE IN THE FRG.

3. THE ROCKET IS REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED AN ALTITUDE OF 460 KMS. IT RELEASED A CLOUD OF IONIZED SODIUM VAPOR WHICH PROCEEDED TO FOLLOW THE MAGNETIC FIELD LINE FORTHWARD AND WAS REPORTEDLY OBSERVED OVER THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN, TANDIL AND EL LEONCITO, ARGENTINA, AND, BY NASA PERSONNEL, AT NANTUCKET ISLAND, WALLOPS STATION, BERMUDA, AND FROM AN AIRCRAFT SOMEWHERE UNCLASSIFIED

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OVER THE CONUS. THE CLOUD REPORTEDLY TOOK ONLY 55 MINUTES

TO TRAVEL FROM THE ANTARCTIC TO THE U.S.

4. SOME PRESS ACCOUNTS PUBLISHED HERE MISTAKENLY STATED
THAT THE ROCKET ITSELF TRAVELED OVER THE U.S.

5. COMMENT. THIS WAS THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL ROCKET LAUNCH
FROM MARAMBIO AND WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN CLEAR WEATHER AT
4:44 AM LOCAL TIME WITH THE TEMPERATURE AT 14 DEGREES F.
IT DEMONSTRATES THAT THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE HAS ACHIEVED
A CAPABILITY FOR LAUNCHING OF HIGH ALTITUDE SOUNDING ROCKETS
FROM MARAMBIO, AND VERIFIES THE OPERABILITY OF THE CASTOR
MISSILE.

HILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPACE PROGRAMS, ROCKETS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 06 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: TPHY, XV, AR, GE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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